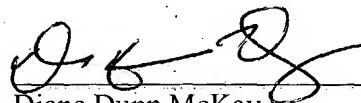


**REMARKS**

Claim 5 has been amended. Claim 7 has been added. Claims 1-7 are in this application.

A prompt and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited. It is believed that no fee is required. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2165.

Respectfully submitted,



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Reg. No. 34,586  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

DATE: June 27, 2003

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**MARKED-UP COPY OF AMENDED CLAIM**

(5) (Amended) A method for the production of a polyacrylic acid (salt), characterized by producing said polyacrylic acid (salt) by using the acrylic acid of high purity obtained at the step (g) set forth in claim 3[ or claim 4].